Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Sunday 24 Jan 2021 until 23:59 on Monday 25 Jan 2021

Forecast Issued on Saturday 23 Jan 2021 at 16:50

Confidence: High for cold, showery conditions through Sunday and Monday and then becoming milder with rain and a thaw later Tuesday but details over timing of this change remain uncertain.

Headline for Sunday 24 Jan 2021: Mainly dry with long sunny spells. Cold

Mountain weather hazards on Sunday 24 Jan 2021

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** No Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)	Sunny intervals	Sunny	Sunny	Clear night	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability							
20%	20%	10%	10%	<05%	<05%	<05%	10%

Forecast for Sunday 24 Jan 2021

Weather: Long clear or sunny spells with just a few mainly light snow showers, these mainly at first and then again in the evening. Perhaps a few valley freezing fog patches in east at first and again later.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Around 90%

Visibility: Occasional cloud above 600m at first and again in the evening with little or no cloud below summits through much of the day. Away from cloud, very good or excellent with good panoramic views of surrounding snow covered fells, falling to just a few kilometres in snow showers. Glare off lying snow expected.

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Forecast for Sunday 24 Jan 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	15/17 SW	14/16 SW	10/13 S	11/13 S	9/13 S	10/13 W	14/16 W	18/23 W	20/26 SW
600	12/15 SW	8/9 S	8/10 S	9/12 S	7/10 SE	8/11 W	10/13 W	12/18 SW	15/23 SW
300	3/10 W	3/10 SW	3/7 S	4/9 SE	4/7 S	3/7 W	4/9 W	6/14 SW	7/17 W
Valley	3/10 W	2/6 NW	3/8 E	4/9 E	4/8 SE	4/8 W	6/10 W	7/14 W	8/17 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-6/-13	-5/-12	-5/-10	-4/-10	-4/-9	-4/-10	-5/-11	-4/-12	-5/-12
600	-4/-10	-4/-8	-3/-8	-3/-8	-2/-5	-2/-6	-3/-8	-3/-8	-3/-9
300	-2/-4	-2/-4	-3/-5	-2/-5	1/-1	0/-2	-3/-6	-1/-4	-1/-5
Valley	0/-2	-0/-2	-0/-2	-0/-2	2/1	3/1	1/-2	1/-2	1/-2
Freezing Level*	100m	00m	00m	00m	200m	200m	100m	200m	200m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Valley temperatures around minus 3 or 4 Celsius at first with frost redeveloping widely in evening.

Forecast for Monday 25 Jan 2021

Weather: Long clear or sunny spells with occasional snow showers, these mainly across western fells where the odd one may be heavy, especially later in the day. Perhaps a few valley freezing fog patches.

Maximum wind: Westerly or southwesterly 15-20mph, decreasing 10mph in afternoon.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Around 60% in west but nearer 90% in east

Visibility: Occasional cloud above 600m in west, but only small amounts below summits in east. Away from cloud, very good or excellent with good panoramic views of surrounding snow covered fells, falling to just a few kilometres in snow showers. Glare off lying snow expected.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 4 or 5 Celsius at dawn rising to just plus 1 or 2 Celsius by day
At 800m: Minus 4 Celsius
Freezing level: Less than 300m

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Saturday 23 January Location: Helvellyn summit at 13:30 Full report: We are continuing to provide the Fell Top Reports for people undertaking their daily local exercise during the lockdown. We would like to remind everyone that Government guidance stipulates that people should only exercise locally to where they live. A hard frost overnight with a few snow showers gave way to a fine day on the Lake District fells. The snow level is around 300m on shaded slopes but where exposed to the sun is much higher. Generally the snow is soft and increases in depth with altitude up to 1m+ on lee slopes and in hollows. In places it is overlying and poorly bonded to old refrozen snow or neve. There were also plenty of patches of windslab around on NE through SE aspects which if triggered would easily be enough to take you off your feet and potentially into steep and rocky terrain below. Large cornices are continuing to develop above NE through SE aspects and are now a considerable hazard to walkers and climbers. The cornices above east face of Helvellyn ie right next to the summit trig point are 2-3m. Please give them a wide berth and advise others with less experience to do likewise. Striding and Swirral Edges are both a mixture of deep soft snow, rime ice and bare rock. The ridge crest was the easiest option today as many of the easier options on the flanks were banked out with drifted snow. The exit to Striding Edge is a large bank of steep and deep poorly bonded soft snow and there is a cornice to sumount. Swirral Edge was more wind scoured and icy. The lighter winds have allowed more snow to settle on the Helvellyn platea and there is now a good covering with some large drifts. With a summit windchill around midday of minus 13 degrees C, full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment are all essential for anyone going out onto the fells. Although the snowpack is currently mainly soft, for those venturing above the snowline an ice axe and crampons are ssential. This is due to the older hard snow and ice that can be encountered and this is not limited to the more exposed routes, such as Striding and Swirral Edges. On the so called “easy” route up Helvellyn from Swirls, Thirlmere there was a large area of unavoidable, steep, hard icy snow where a slip without the means to stop yourself quickly could have serious consequences. Please be conservative with your plans and know your limits. Temperature: minus 4.6C Maximum wind speed 20.1mph Wind chill: minus 13.5C Average wind speed: 16.1mph

Issued at: 1650 on Sat 23 Jan 2021

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